

WASH Sector/Cluster Coordination Report, CSZ Somalia

June 6, 2008

Access and other constraints

Access to the affected population in Somalia, especially in the Central South Zone remains difficult. The security situation makes it difficult to accurately measure the level of services provided to IDPs and is hampering independent monitoring of implementation. Even undertaking coordination meetings can be difficult, especially in Mogadishu.

Increased costs of food and fuel as well as the Somali currency's devaluation is affecting not only the cost of implementation of activities, but also the populations' capacity to contribute to operation of service facilities. For this reason the WASH cluster has initiated development of a strategy for level of payment for WASH services as well as work on guidelines for sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Field-level activities and coordination

A number of activities are taking place throughout CSZ, some of which are reflected in this document. However, actors in the field are encouraged to submit updates and minutes of meetings to the Cluster Coordinator who will assist with dissemination to a wider audience.

UNICEF is in the process of strengthening the coordination capacity in Somalia. This includes hiring a national coordinator to be based in Mogadishu.

Drought-affected areas in Central South Zone

After widespread trucking due to the delayed onset of the *Gu* rain, undertaken mainly by ICRC, reports from the field indicates that the *Gu* rain has now commenced throughout Somalia and water trucking is no longer be needed to drought-affected areas.

All actors are called upon to assist reduce the vulnerability of the population in drought-affected areas by rehabilitation of existing or establishment of new water catchment and storage facilities as well as development of boreholes.

As the rain came late it remains to be seen to what extend aquifers and storage facilities will be replenished.

A coordination meeting was held in Gaalkacyo on April 30, 2008. Minutes from the meeting are available upon request.

The next meeting in the WASH Drought Group is planned for August 19, subject to change depending on the development of the rain.

IDPs

Hundreds of thousands of people in Somalia now lives as IDPs and more are added every month.

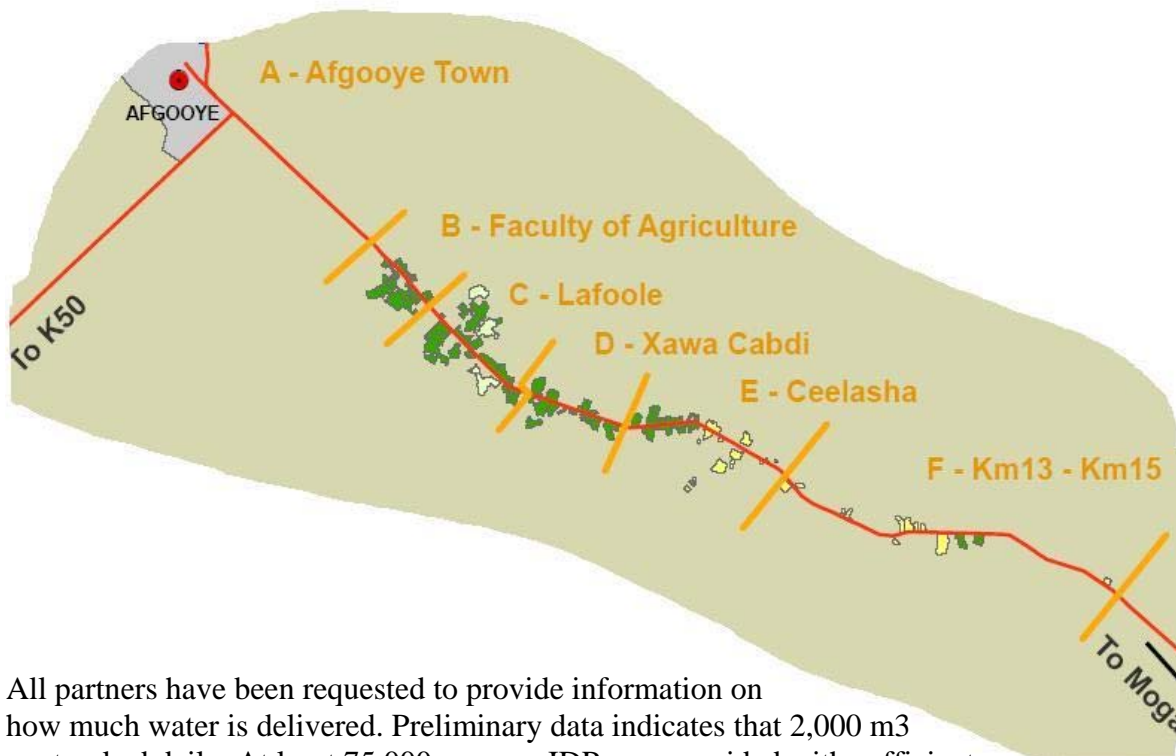
Many IDPs live in host communities and have access to the same level of services as the host communities. In a number of locations, most notably in Afgooye Corridor IDP Settlement and around Mogadishu more 'traditional' IDP camps have been established. . DRC is providing water through water trucking in a number of locations in Mogadishu. For details on Afgooye corridor, please see the next page.

Information on activities undertaken and meetings held in relation to WASH interventions for IDPs in CSZ should be shared with the Cluster Coordinator.

Afgooye Corridor IDP Settlement

The latest population figures for Afgooye Corridor IDP Settlements (popularly referred to as Afgooye) estimates the number of IDPs at almost 310,000. Due to continued influx of new IDPs and insecurity the situation remains volatile.

A number of meetings dedicated to discuss and coordinate the activities in Afgooye, including regular meetings in Nairobi and Mogadishu - security permitting. Most recent a series of meetings have been held in Mogadishu to decide on how to proceed with division of areas of responsibilities - each partner will be responsible for a specific area of Afgooye. As some might not be familiar with the subdivisions of the area, a map is included below.



All partners have been requested to provide information on how much water is delivered. Preliminary data indicates that 2,000 m³ are trucked daily. At least 75,000 or more IDPs are provided with sufficient water from piped systems, mainly in Ceelasha. Thus, IDPs are on average provided with more than 8 l/p/d as compared to the objective of providing 10 l/p/d.

In a few weeks, more people will be connected to piped water distribution systems in Ceelasha – systems constructed mainly by OXFAM GB and other partners. The systems have started delivering water, and are expected to serve a total of approximately 100,000 people when finalized.

Within the next three months a number of boreholes in other areas of Afgooye will be rehabilitated by UNICEF and NCA and local partners. It is expected this work will serve more than 100,000 people, significantly reducing the need for water trucking to less than 100,000 IDPs.

Data from February 2008 indicates that less than half of the required (10,000) latrines are available. Lots of efforts have been put into latrine construction and hygiene promotion since then, but it is doubtful if all IDPs have access to adequate sanitation yet. IDPs without latrines are primarily living in newly established camps.

A more comprehensive picture of sanitation services provided is expected to be ready within a few weeks.

The next coordination meeting for actors active in Afgooye will take place in Nairobi on June 16. By the end of June it is expected that a meeting will be held in Mogadishu.

Comments/Inputs

Comments and inputs for the next cluster report should be submitted to the UNICEF Cluster Coordinator Erik Toft, email: etoft@unicef.org